

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention differs from the prior art of record for multiple reasons. The present invention assigns a message identifier at the email server. This identifier corresponds to the author of the message, which the user enter when replying to the message via a phone. This differs from the prior art of record in that a pre defined identifier is assigned, much of the prior art either places message in a mailbox with no identifier or the identifier is not pre assigned and is assigned during the reply process or the identifier is assigned in the voicemail server. The closest art of record, Stark et al. United States Patent Application Publication 200/0131566, attaches the caller id number to the message, but it is not user in the reply process. Applicant also explicitly argues this feature in remarks dated 3/24/2008 and 12/11/2007, clearly distinguishing the assigning in the email server and not the voice server where the call is received. Additionally the present invention authenticates the message identifier at email server as opposed to the voice server where the call is begin received. The Stark's authenticate the users by using the caller ID in the voice server to direct the user to the mailbox corresponding to the phone number. There Stark's fails to make use of the phone number of the author of the message. Additionally the present invention is use to reply and transmit a voice message as a response to the email message, as opposed to just retrieving the audio for playback. Therefor for the reasons discussed above, among other limitation, the present invention distinguishes over the prior art of record and is allowable.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AJAY BHATIA whose telephone number is (571)272-3906. The examiner can normally be reached on M-H 9:00-3:30, Also please fax interview requests to 571-273-3906.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on 571-272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AB

/Jason D Cardone/
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